

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application.

This application is a continuation application of parent application Serial No. 09/794,619, filed on February 28, 2001. The present continuation application is submitted to prosecute new Claims 1-13. Claims 1-13 include partially the matter of Claims 36-45 and 49-51 of the parent application and Claims 1-13 recite features of optical fibers for a wavelength of 1550 nm. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-13 find support in the originally filed specification and no new matter is believed to be added. Moreover, the present Preliminary Amendment amends the specification similar to the specification of the parent application and adds a Cross-Reference to Related Application section.

Accordingly, an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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Bradley D. Lytle  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220

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